

# RIVERS CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTION

Winton, North Carolina

**Client:** US Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Prisons

#### Location

Winton, Hertford County, North Carolina

#### **Contract Duration**

Contract award: 03/07/00. Opened March 2001. Operations contract: Three years plus (7) one-year options expiring 03/06/11.

#### **Background**

The National Capital Revitalization Act of 1997 mandated that the Federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP) house District of Columbia sentenced felons in private contract facilities. The BOP adopted a course of action that included soliciting competitive bids for contract facilities, closing the existing Lorton facility, and transferring the inmates to the contracted facilities. On March 7, 2000, the BOP signed a contract with The GEO Group to provide and operate a 1200-bed, low security, adult male facility in Winton, North Carolina. The facility was built within 12 months at a cost of \$62,025,036.

### Scope of Work

The GEO Group provides comprehensive correctional services to the BOP that include designing, building, financing, owning, operating and managing a 1200-bed, all double-cell, state-of-the-art correctional facility for low security adult males. Construction began within a week of contract signing. The all cell design was chosen to enhance security and provide flexibility in housing assignments. After the BOP approved the completed facility and issued a Notice to Proceed, the BOP began a gradual input of approximately 40 to 80 inmates per week until reaching capacity in order to assure a smooth activation.

Programs offered include ABE P-GED; GED; Life Skills, including Anger Management and Parenting Skills; Substance Abuse Education; and Vocational Education courses, including training for work in the Prison Industries program. Inmates have access to a law library and a general interest library. Religious services appropriate to the needs of the inmate population are available. Inmate Services include a fully-staffed healthcare unit, a fully equipped kitchen for complete food services, a laundry, a commissary, and indoor and outdoor gymnasium/ recreational facilities.

## Facility Description

Located on a 257-acre tract in a rural area west of Winton, North Carolina, in Hertford County, the facility is a campus design with four housing buildings, indoor and outdoor recreational areas, a central programs building, an administrative building exterior to the two perimeter fences, a prison industries building, and four perimeter guard towers. The design enables cost-effective utilization of security staff supplemented by modern electronic surveillance, which in turn allows enhanced programmatic activities without significant budgetary implications. The healthcare unit's design is consistent with the predicted needs of the population. A large, fully equipped kitchen provides meals for inmates and staff.

#### Accreditation

Accreditation was received from the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO) in January 2003 with an outstanding score of 99.9%. They were re-accredited in April 2006. The facility underwent their initial accreditation from the American Correctional Association (ACA) in October 2002 and received an outstanding score of 99.75%. ACA Re-accreditation was received in September 2005 with a score of 99.75%.

